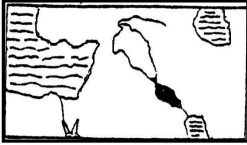


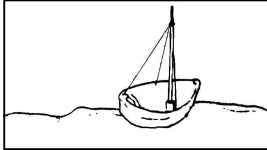
# Questions to Ask About a Culture

## 1. Geography



- Small trees and bushes grew along river; river banks for water supply
- Short grasses, dry land
- Summer were very hot (40 degrees C), winters cold (below 0)

## 2. Economics



- Traded with neighbours
- Traded extra grain, wool, oil, clothing, and leather for ivory, precious stones, metals, timber, etc.
- Distributed by donkeys, oxen, and boats

## 3. Religion and Philosophy



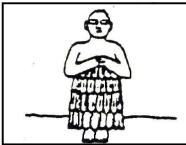
- Worshipped 300 deities; believed there was a deity for everything natural
- Built ziggurats to worship deities; each ziggurat had a deity living at the top
- Priests, priestesses directed prayers, offerings, and religious festivals

## 4. Knowledge, Education, and the Arts



- Girls did not go to school; boys of wealthy families went to school
- Priests ran school, knowledgeable about medicine, engineering, science, and what the deities wanted
- School located in ziggurat; studied arithmetic, reading, writing, and religious studies

## 5. Political Science



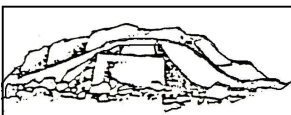
- 1st leaders were priests; had religious and government responsibilities
- Had kings; when ruler dies, replaced with relative
- When conflicts increased military leaders were chosen as rulers; they took role of king and enforced laws

## 6. Sociology



- People live with their families
- There was upper, middle, and lower class, plus kings and slaves
- Men: head of household; Women: had some rights, financially depended on husbands; Slaves: most Sumerians treated fairly

## 7. History



- In 3250 BCE, first to use the wheel for transportation
- First to irrigate fields, study the stars
- Develop engineering, develop an efficient number system